



"Scott Lennard"
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10/14/2009 11:10 AM

To Ted Linnert/OCP/R8/USEPA/US@EPA

cc

bcc

Subject public comment

Dear Mr. Linnert,

Greetings from Libby, MT. I respectfully submit this email as my contribution in the public comment period running from September 9, 2009 - October 16, 2009.

My husband and I have lived in Libby since May 1985. Our two children were born & raised in Libby. None of us have ever gone through the CARD screening process. Our reasoning for not taking the free testing is largely due to an initial misunderstanding (on our part) of who the screening was for. Neither of us ever worked for WR Grace nor did we have family members or even friends who had worked at the mine. We simply believed it didn't really apply to us & our circumstance. When the contamination issue initially broke within the community our children were no longer small elementary aged children and so life moved on and they graduated high school here. Following graduation both of the kids moved away.

Given the fact that we built our house in 1993 and our soil tested non-dect Scott and I have continued to live in this community placing our faith in the EPA that since the clean up was underway our best interest (as residents) was at heart. However, I have recently had my interest renewed in this issue, due in large part to the fact that our 6 year old grandson is now living here with us. Being concerned for him and his future I began seeking information and an answer to one simple question. Much to my dismay the information is heavy laden and difficult to understand, if not impossible to obtain. I am discouraged and dismayed at how difficult it is to get an answer let alone a solid answer from anyone in the EPA.

I went down to the local EPA office and was told by a woman manning the front desk that the EPA has air monitors up all over testing the air and it keeps coming up 99.9% clean yet another source tells me that ambient air testing stopped 2 years ago. Are you or are you not testing the air here and by what testing method, PLM or TEM? If you are no longer testing the air then the information given to me was out and out wrong, not to mention grossly misleading.

The main question I seek an answer to is "In regards to Libby's amphibole asbestos & air quality, Is it safe to raise my grandson in Libby?" It would seem to me that 10 years after the fact the EPA should know the answer to that question. The EPA places a disclaimer of sorts on the non-dect & less than 1% findings using the PLM testing that they do not know if it is safe. What kind of answer is that for a grandmother raising a child? I believe that people here are owed the truth. I would rather make the decision to stay knowing it isn't considered safe than be led to draw a conclusion that it is safe and have my grandson die of mesothelioma by the age of 50. I believe I deserve an answer or evidence that strongly supports one conclusion or another.

The fact that activity based testing was still being done at Asa Wood in Sept. of this year makes

me scared. My grandson does not attend Asa Wood nor will he ever play there because watching people in white suits and masks play on the playground a few hours before the school children come out to recess does little more than create more questions in my mind. Why, is the soil dust still being tested there? Is there that much doubt in its safety? If so, then why are those children allowed on that school's grounds. Wouldn't the better route be to care about our children enough to keep them off there until there is a definitive "yes, it is okay."? This example alone of economics over safety and well-being is madness.

Due to the fact that I can't seem to get my question addressed I feel it is improper for the EPA to continue with the ROD. I do not agree with any decision the EPA makes at this time within the ROD. I have not been fully informed in the specifics of the contamination in Libby and hereby stand opposed to the EPA ROD and any Maintenance program that comes out of it.

Sincerely,

Patti Lennard
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